



# NEBRASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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### PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

**TO:** Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

**FROM:** Melody Hobson

**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:** Authorize the Commissioner to negotiate an agreement with DHHS for the use of Child Care Development Block Grant Funds" as the wording for the Agenda and attach the draft you have.

**RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** The Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) is a federal program that provides child care subsidy for children of families at or near the federal poverty level while the parents work or attend school. Federal requirements for CCDBG require states to set aside a percentage of the funds for activities to improve the quality of childcare. The Nebraska Child Care Quality Act (Nebraska R.S.S 43-2601 to 43-2625) requires the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and the Nebraska Department of Education to collaborate in a number of ways that are designed to assist childcare providers improve the quality of care, and for families of young children to access quality childcare. The quality set-aside from the CCDBG is part of the collaboration between the two agencies. The Office of Early Childhood, within the NDE, provides the quality activities through various activities and with staff support (through both locations of the Early Childhood office - Lincoln and the Early Childhood Training Center, housed at ESU3). The Department of Health and Human Services sub-grants money to NDE to carry out these activities.

These funds have a multi-year obligation period and an additional liquidation period.

**ESTIMATED COST:** N/A

Sub-grant provides \$1,821,344 in funding to the Nebraska Department of Education.